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(57) A device for preventing doors or windows from being opened comprises a telescopic leg 1 having a yoke 8 at the

top which, in use, is wedged under a handle 21 of a door 18, and at the bottom a base having a plate which has an anti-slip undersurface and rests on the floor. A pivotal connection is provided between the bottom of the leg 1 and the base. Instead of having a yoke 8, the device may be permanently affixed to a door or window by means of a pivotal connection. A battery-operated alarm actuated by an inertia switch, which detects vibration, may be located in the base.

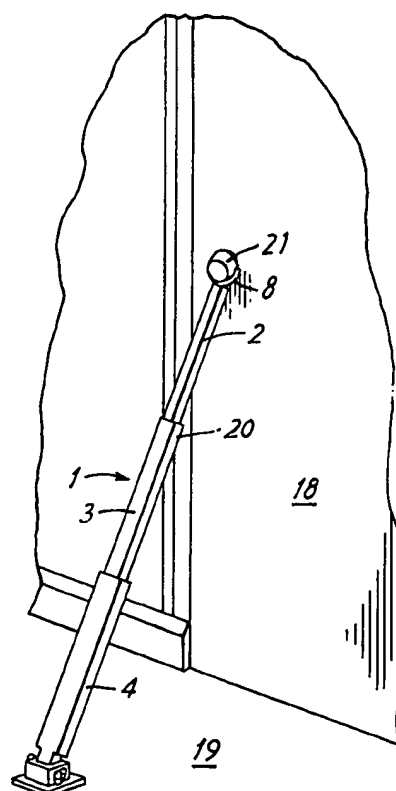


FIG. 2

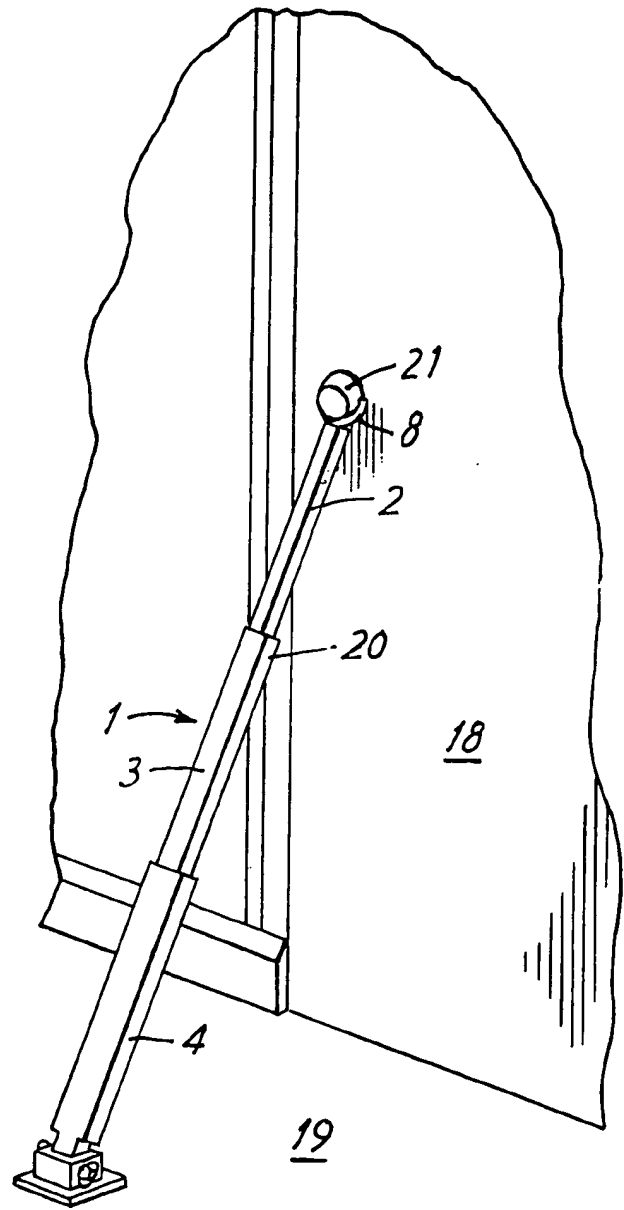
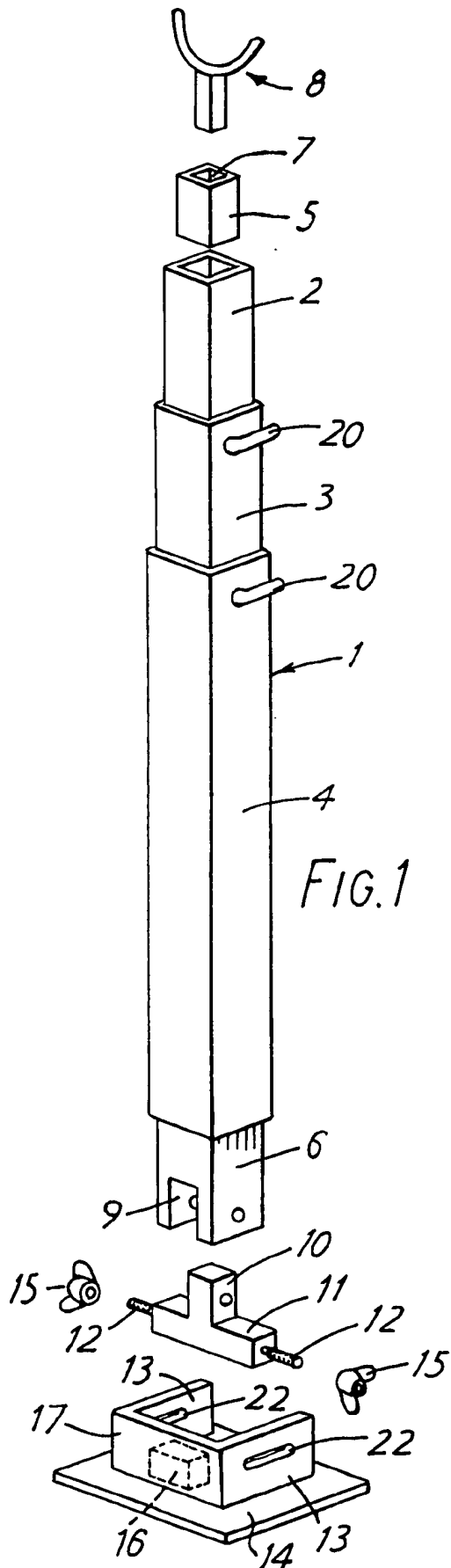


FIG. 2

SPECIFICATION

Protective device for doors and the like

5 This invention relates to a protective device for doors, windows and the like and is intended to enable such a door or window to be secured in a closed position irrespective of the presence or otherwise of locks, bolts or other existing devices already fitted to the door. The device of the invention may itself be fitted to a door or window, or may be portable to enable it to be carried round to enable a person to protect themselves from intrusion inside, for example, an hotel room.

15 According to the invention there is provided a protective device comprising a rigid elongate leg member of adjustable length, means for locking said leg member at a particular desired length, said leg member being provided at one end with attachment means whereby it may be attached, temporarily or permanently, to an item to be secured and at the other end with gripping means whereby the leg member may be secured against the floor.

The attachment means may take the form of a yoke incorporating a U-shaped or V-shaped member which can be hooked under a door knob or similar to temporarily attach the device to an item to be protected. Alternatively, the device may form a permanent fixture in such an item, in which case said attachment means may comprise some form of permanent pivotal connection with the door or other item. In use, the leg member is adjusted to a length such that, when the yoke is hooked under the door knob, the other (bottom) end of the leg member is angled between the floor of the room and the door. If an intruder attempts to open the door, the yoke end of the leg member tends to ride up the door surface thus jamming the yoke firmly under the knob and preventing entry. If desired, switch means may be provided to sound an alarm or similar warning if an attempted intrusion occurs.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention, the leg member is formed of a plurality of coaxial sections telescopically arranged to provide said adjustable length. Locking tabs and cooperating apertures may be provided for adjusting the length of the leg member for different circumstances of use. When not in use, the leg member can be telescoped up, thus making the device very compact for the traveller.

In one embodiment of the invention said gripping means comprises a rubber sucker which is attached to said other end of the leg member and which may be stuck to the floor to secure the bottom end of the device. In an alternative construction, said other end of the leg member is pivotally attached to a base plate which is equipped, on its undersurface, with a non-slip material. Means may be provided for enabling the position of the bottom of the leg member relative to the base plate to be adjusted to facilitate setting up of the device. Once in the correct position the leg member may be secured to the base plate.

In order that the invention may be better understood an embodiment thereof will now be described by way of example only an

accompanying drawings in which:-

Figure 1 is an exploded perspective view of an embodiment of a protective device according to the invention; and

70 *Figure 2* is a perspective view of the device of *Figure 1* shown in use against a door.

Referring to the drawings, the protective device comprises an elongate telescopic leg 1 made up of three coaxial telescopic square section tubes 2, 3 and 4. Attached into the ends of the leg 1 are an upper and lower mounting block, numbered 5 and 6 respectively and made, for example, of light alloy. The upper mounting block is equipped with a blind bore 7 into which fits, by an interference fit, a saddle shaped yoke 8. The yoke 8, or at least its U-shaped part, may be coated with rubber or plastics material to protect door or window furniture when the device is in use. The lower mounting block is likewise provided with a blind bore 9 which receives, by means of an interference fit, a correspondingly shaped protrusion 10 on a transversely extending support rod 11.

The support rod 11 is provided with respective threaded ends 12 and is mounted between a pair of upstanding support plates 13 mounted on a base plate 14. The underside of the base plate 14 is provided with a non-slip surface (not shown). The threaded ends 12 of the rod 11 pass through respective slots 22 in the support plates 13 and may be secured thereto by means of respective wing nuts 15. An intruder alert device 16 comprising an inertia switch and a battery-operated buzzer or bell may be provided on the inside surface of an interconnecting wall 17 extending between the support plates 13. The inertia switch is such as to detect vibration through the leg 1 when in use so that the alarm will sound when an attempted intrusion occurs.

Figure 2 shows the device in position against a door, shown under reference 18. In order to fit the device, the leg 1 is drawn out to an approximately suitable length to give the required angle between floor 19 and door 18 and is then locked at this length by means of locking tabs 20. The U-shaped portion of the yoke 8 is then hooked under the knob 21 of the door, or some other suitable protrusion and the base plate 14 allowed to rest on the floor. The wing nuts 15 are now loosened to enable the support rod 11 to move along the slots 22 in a direction towards the door until the leg is securely jammed under the door knob whereupon the wing nuts are tightened to give a secure assembly. Any attempt to open the door will be resisted by the device irrespective of the existence or otherwise of locks, bolts or other securing and locking devices.

In order to assist portability, the yoke and the base plate/support rod can be removed from their respective mounting blocks 5 and 6, and the whole contents including the leg, placed in a carrying case.

125 CLAIMS

1. A protective device comprising a rigid elongate leg member of adjustable length, means for locking said leg member at a particular desired

with attachment means whereby it may be attached temporarily or permanently, to an item to be secured and at the other end with gripping means whereby the leg member may be secured against the floor.

5 2. A protective device according to claim 1 wherein said attachment means comprises a yoke having a U or V shaped section which is able to hook under a protrusion on an item being protected.

3. A protective device according to claim 1
10 wherein said attachment means comprises a pivotal connection having means for attachment to an item being protected.

4. A protective device according to any one of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein said gripping means
15 comprises a rubber sucker attached at said other end of the leg member for securing same to a floor surface.

5. A protective device according to any one of claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein said gripping means
20 comprises a base plate having a gripping undersurface and wherein said other end of the leg member is provided with a transversely extending support bar which is pivotally mounted with respect to said base plate.

6. A protective device according to claim 5 wherein said support bar is slidably mounted between respective slots, means being provided for tightening the bar relative to the slots once the correct position for use has been reached.

7. A protective device according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the leg member takes the form of a multi-section telescopic leg whose length can be adjusted and locked to a desired position depending upon the circumstances of use.

8. A protective device according to any one of the preceding claims further comprising an intruder alarm including an inertia switch and a sounder which is operable to provide an alarm when an attempted intrusion occurs.

9. A protective device substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

10. A door when fitted with an intruder device as claimed in any one of claims 3 to 9 when dependent
45 upon claim 3.